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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

BY AIR CONFIDENTIAL

Date: 2001

PRG No. 1178

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ROUTINE

FRANKFORT

3 OCT 51

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IN 5 32100

AD 730 (1), 14, 2-3, SIC (4), EDM (5-6), WOD (7), RC (8)

S/C (9)

Paraphrase Not Required. Handle as CONFIDENTIAL Correspondence per Para. 31 (1) OIA AR-3005.

Rushmore in Brazil

AR: A-1081

CONTROL: 304

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REFERENCE IS MADE TO HICOG'S DESPATCH NO. 679 OF 25 JULY 1951 WHICH REQUESTED THE DEPARTMENT TO CHECK AVAILABLE SOURCES FOR BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION CONCERNING FERDINAND SANKAS AND HERBERT CUKURS. IT WAS STATED THAT THE BRAZILIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON IS INTERESTED IN OBTAINING SUCH INFORMATION AS THE DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE CONCERNING THESE TWO PERSONS.

IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE SPELLING OF THE NAME SANKAS IS AN ERROR SINCE AN INDIVIDUAL NAMED FERDINAND SAKAS IS KNOWN TO BE FUNCTIONING AS ESTONIAN CONSUL IN SAO PAULO, BRAZIL. IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS NO RECORD OF HERBERT CUKURS BUT HAS HEARD OF A MR. HERBERT CUKURS WHOSE RUMORED BACKGROUND PARALLELS THAT OF HERBERT CUKURS AS DESCRIBED IN THE DESPATCH UNDER REFERENCE.

MR. FERDINAND SAKAS HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE BRAZILIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE AMERICAN EMBASSY AT RIO DE JANEIRO. IN ITS AID MEMOIR OF FEBRUARY 11 AND MAY 23, 1950, THE EMBASSY TRANSMITTED TO THE BRAZILIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS THE BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION CONCERNING MR. SAKAS WHICH THE DEPARTMENT HAD COMMUNICATED TO THE EMBASSY FOR THIS PURPOSE. IT IS SUBMITTED THAT HICOG INFORM THE BRAZILIAN EMBASSY IN WASH OF THIS CORRESPONDENCE AND STATE THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS NO FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING MR. SAKAS AT THIS TIME.

COORDINATION WITH State

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SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2003 2006

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THE DEPARTMENT HAS NO FIRM INFORMATION CONCERNING MR. HERBERT CUKORS. IT HAS BEEN RUMORED THAT HE IS AN UNPUNISHED WAR CRIMINAL WHO IS NOW LIVING AND OPERATING A SMALL BUSINESS IN BRAZIL. HE IS STATED TO BE A LATVIAN WHO, DURING THE GERMAN OCCUPATION OF RIGA, ACTED ON BEHALF OF THE NAZIS AS CHIEF EXECUTIONER IN THE RIGA GHETTO. HICOG, IN ITS DISCRETION, IS AUTHORIZED TO INFORM THE BRAZILIAN EMBASSY OF THESE RUMORS CONCERNING MR. CUKORS. IT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO VERIFY THIS INFORMATION.

WEBB (ACTING)

ORIGIN: EUR

INFO : GER, ARA, SY, OLI, CIA, DCR

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